

**Karen Wilkie
80 Willow Street
Waterbury, CT 06710**

**Testimony before the Appropriations Committee
Re: DSS Budget
March 4, 2011**

Good evening chairs and members of the committee. My name is Karen Wilkie and I am a member at the Independence Center in Waterbury. I am here to testify in regard to HB 6380. I am asking that you not raise the co-pays for Medicare Part D. I already pay between \$1.10 and \$3.50 per prescription. I also pay out of pocket for over-the-counter medications that equal over \$36.00 per month. I recently had a knee replacement and require vitamins and supplements to help me recover. I would not be able to afford any other increases or co-pays for any other services I need since I already pay for rent, utilities and telephone.

I know there are many people less fortunate than I am that could not afford any co-pay. Co-pays would result in more people not getting the timely services or treatment they require.

I thank you for taking this matter into consideration.